

milestone, and she is the first woman to serve full-time as a federal judge in Cape Girardeau.

In addition to serving as an impartial judge in our court system, Abbie also finds time to serve the community in other ways. She has participated and led several different councils that aim to inspire and support local kids.

For her work in seeking justice and practicing law in an admirable and ethical way, I applaud Abbie for her success and the bright future that still lies ahead. It is my pleasure to recognize her efforts and accomplishments before the House of Representatives.

IN TRIBUTE TO MCPO. EDWIN F. (BUD) ATKINS (RET.) ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE CONNECTICUT VETERANS HALL OF FAME

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent whose lifelong service in our nation's military is truly breathtaking. Our men and women in uniform are regularly called upon to sacrifice large spans of time away from family, usually with limited contact and in dangerous conditions. In few jobs within the military is that truer than for our submariners, who can spend months at a time without even seeing the light of day, yet Master Chief Petty Officer Edwin F. (Bud) Atkins of Oakdale, Connecticut has partaken in a total of twenty patrols, spending time attached to nine different submarines.

Bud first enlisted, not as a sailor, but as a soldier in his native Wisconsin National Guard in 1949. He then joined the Navy in February, 1954 and attended Basic Submarine School before reporting to the USS *Wahoo* (SS 565). After this first assignment, he briefly left the active service and joined the Naval Reserve, before returning to active duty. He then reported to the USS *Congor* (SS 477) followed by the USS *Corsair* (SS 435) to take part in the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1959.

Upon completion of that tour, he took part in thirteen strategic patrols during which he became a "plankholder," a member of the first crew aboard a commissioned naval vessel, on the USS *Sculpin* (SSN590), USS *Daniel Webster* (SSBN 626) and the USS *Francis Scott Key* (SSBN 657). In 1969, he returned to staff duty at the submarine base in Groton, Connecticut to become the leading instructor in Advanced Nuclear Weapons, educating a new generation of submariners in the details of their unique craft.

In June of 1973, Bud reported to the USS *Kamehameha* (SSBN 642) to lead his first patrol as Chief of the Boat, the highest ranking enlisted personnel on a submarine. He then led six more over ten years assigned to the submarine's Gold crew. Upon completing his final patrol with the Kamehameha, Bud returned to Groton as Staff Command Master Chief for Submarine Group Two.

Already with more than twenty-five years in the Navy, Bud's desire to serve never died. In continuing his naval career, Bud reported to precommissioning units for both the USS *Michigan* and USS *Alabama* (SSBN 731),

serving as Chief of the Boat for both. Following commissioning of the Alabama, Bud served as the Group Command Master Chief for Submarine Group Nine, one of the Navy's highest enlisted positions, before retiring in March 1988 after forty years of service.

A life member of the U.S. Submarine Veterans, a Holland Club Member, and former Base Vice Commander of the Groton Base U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc. Master Chief Atkins' service still hasn't fully ended. Not only is he an active member of the Connecticut veterans community, he also still serves as a Captain in the Second Company of the Governor's Foot Guard, a unit that, while largely ceremonial, is still officially part of the Connecticut military.

While Bud's service is incredible in both its length and its profound impact on numerous ships of the U.S. submarine fleet, the sacrifice of his family must be recognized as well. He is married to the former Frances Somers of Amherst, Wisconsin, with whom he has two children. I wish Bud the best in his induction into the Connecticut Veteran's Hall of Fame this week.

HONORING THE VISITING NURSES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT ON THE CELEBRATION OF THEIR 110TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the many family, friends, and community leaders who have gathered to celebrate the 110th Anniversary of the Visiting Nurses Association of South Central Connecticut—a remarkable milestone for this tremendous organization.

Founded in 1904, the VNA-SCC began as a non-profit, community-based agency dedicated to providing New Haven's medically underserved with quality homecare. More than a century later, they have grown in many ways, but their mission remains unchanged. With programs and services from maternal child health to home health aides, advanced illness management to behavioral health, and private duty care to skilled nursing services, the VNA-SCC provides services in forty-three communities throughout south central Connecticut.

For decades, the VNA-SCC was the only organization of its type serving Connecticut's second-largest city. The VNA/SCC, as it exists today—is the result of the 1989 merger of the original New Haven, Milford and (Naugatuck River) Valley VNAs. Over the course of more than a century, the VNA-SCC's role has evolved to meet the changing and varied needs of the patients in their care. Today, in addition to highly-skilled, hands-on nursing care, the organization offers a wide range of sophisticated treatments and therapies that are on the leading-edge of home health care technologies.

We are living in a time with a rapidly changing health care system. The VNA-SCC is on the front lines helping those most in need receive the care they need. Their dedicated staff and nurses are uniquely committed to their clients, their families, and providing quality

health care. They have touched the lives of millions, giving comfort and care to clients and their loved ones in their greatest times of need.

The VNA-SCC is a trusted and respected leader in health care and has become an invaluable member of our community. Today, as they celebrate their 110th Anniversary, I am proud to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to President and CEO, John Quinn; Board Chair, Robert Motley; and all of those at the VNA-SCC for all of the good work that they do every day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on November 17, 2014 due to a flight delay and therefore missed roll call vote No. 520. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING NOLAN BRIGHT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nolan Bright. Nolan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 81, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nolan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nolan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nolan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nolan Bright for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LINCOLN SCHOOL

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Lincoln School in Rockaway Borough, Morris County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its Centennial Anniversary.

For fully a century, this outstanding school has provided the countless number of students who have passed through its doors with a superior education that has prepared them for the rest of their educational pursuits and for the rest of their lives.

When the Lincoln School welcomed its first students back in 1914, there were still people